

BONHOEFFER AND THE BEATITUDES

Seek him that made the Pleiades and Orion, that turneth deep darkness into the morning, and darkeneth the day into night, that calleth for the waters of the sea, and poureth them out upon the face of the earth: The Lord is his Name. (*Amos 5:80*)

“I am the light of the world; anyone that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.” (*John 8:12*)

O Gracious Light

O gracious Light,
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun,
and our eyes behold the vesper light,
we sing thy praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Thou art worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices;
O Son of God, O Giver of life,
and to be glorified through all the worlds.

The First Beatitude:
**Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

Bonhoeffer: *The disciples [of Jesus] are needy in every way. They are simply ‘poor’. They have no security, no property to call their own, no piece of earth they could call their home, no earthly community to which they might fully belong.*

Jesus also knows about those others, ...those powerful, respected people, ... who stand firmly on the earth inseparably rooted in the national way of life, the spirit of the times, the popular piety. But Jesus does not speak to them; he speaks only to his disciples when he says, blessed – for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

What did Jesus want to say to us? What does he want from us today? How does he help us to be faithful Christians today? It is not ultimately important to us what this or that church leader wants. Rather, we want to know what Jesus wants.

BONHOEFFER AND THE BEATITUDES: AN ORGAN EVENSONG
MARCH 10 AT 5:00 PM

A time for listening and reflection within the framework of
the Episcopal Church’s “An Order of Worship for the Evening.”

Featuring *The Beatitudes: Organ Reflections on the Blessings of Jesus*,
played by the composer, Roberta Rowland-Raybold,
and the writings of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, including *Discipleship* and other selections,
with commentary by Dr. Wayne Whitson Floyd, General Editor, *Dietrich Bonhoeffer Works*.